This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) A method of correcting the refractive error in the cornea of an eye, comprising the steps of

positioning a reshaping device having a predetermined first surface adjacent an ~~the~~ exposed internal corneal surface, so that the reshaping device overlies a portion of the exposed internal corneal surface,

heating the reshaping device to soften the portion of the exposed internal corneal surface that the reshaping device overlies, ~~and~~

reshaping the softened portion of the exposed internal corneal surface, so that the exposed internal corneal surface substantially conforms to the predetermined first surface of the reshaping device,

wherein the heating step includes heating the reshaping device using a liquid with a predetermined temperature, which in turn heats the cornea, and

further comprising the step of administering the liquid through an irrigation port in the reshaping device.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 2, further comprising the steps of

monitoring the temperature of the reshaping device using at least one thermal couple; and

maintaining the temperature of the reshaping device at a substantially uniform temperature.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of

positioning ~~repositioning the~~ a corneal flap[[,]] so that it overlies the exposed internal corneal surface.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 2, further comprising the steps of

removing the reshaping device, and

positioning ~~repositioning the~~ a corneal flap[[,]] so that it overlies the exposed internal corneal surface.

8. (Previously Amended) A method according to claim 2, wherein

the heating step includes heating the cornea with a laser to soften the portion of the exposed internal corneal surface that the reshaping device overlies.

9. (Original) A method according to claim 2, wherein

the positioning step includes positioning a reshaping device configured to correct myopia.

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 2, wherein

the positioning step includes positioning ~~an~~ the reshaping device configured to correct hyperopia.

11. (Original) A method according to claim 2, wherein

the heating step includes heating the reshaping device using laser light, which in turn transfers heat to the cornea.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 11, wherein

the heating step includes heating the reshaping device using laser light in the portion of the electromagnetic infrared spectrum.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 2, wherein

the heating step includes heating the reshaping device using microwaves.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 2 ~~15~~, further comprising the step of

removing the liquid through an aspiration port in the reshaping device.

17. (Original) A method according to claim 2, wherein

the reshaping device is a thermally conductive plate, which is heated to regulate the temperature of the cornea.

18. (Currently Amended) A method of correcting the refractive error in the cornea of an eye, comprising the steps of

separating a portion of the cornea to form first and second internal surfaces,

moving the first surface away from the second surface,

positioning a reshaping device having a predetermined first surface adjacent the second internal surface, so that the reshaping device overlies a portion of the cornea,

heating the reshaping device, which in turn heats the cornea to soften the portion of the cornea that the reshaping device overlies, and

reshaping the softened portion of the cornea, so that the cornea substantially conforms to the predetermined first surface of the reshaping device,

wherein the heating step includes heating the reshaping device using a liquid with a predetermined temperature, and

further comprising the step of administering the liquid through an irrigation port in the reshaping device.

19. (Original) A method according to claim 18, further comprising the steps of

monitoring the temperature of the reshaping device using at least one thermal couple; and

maintaining the temperature of the reshaping device at a substantially uniform temperature.

20. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein

the heating step includes heating the reshaping device so that the heat is distributed substantially uniformly through the reshaping device.

21. (Original) A method according to claim 18, further comprising the steps of

removing the reshaping device, and

repositioning the first surface, so that it overlies the second surface.

22. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein

the heating step includes heating the reshaping device with a laser, which in turn heats the cornea and softens the portion of the cornea that the reshaping device overlies.

23. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein

the positioning step includes positioning a reshaping device configured to correct myopia.

24. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 18, wherein

the positioning step includes positioning the ~~an~~ reshaping device configured to correct hyperopia.

25. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein

the heating step includes heating the reshaping device using laser light.

26. (Original) A method according to claim 25, wherein

the heating step includes heating the reshaping device using laser light in the infrared portion of the electromagnetic spectrum.

27. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein

the heating step includes heating the reshaping device using microwaves.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 18 ~~29~~, further comprising the step of

removing the liquid through an aspiration port in the reshaping device.

31. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein

the reshaping device is a thermally conductive plate, which is heated to regulate the temperature of the cornea.

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Cancelled)